

BOOK NOTICE

Days Without Time, Adventures of a Naturalist, Illustrated with 144 Photographs by the Author. By Edwin Way Teale. Dodd, Mead & Company, New York, 1948. 10×7 inches, xiv+283 pages, \$6.00.

I do not know anyone who writes so entertainingly and accurately on such a multiplicity of natural history subjects as Mr. Teale. His latest book is full of his "adventures" among animals that fly, crawl, cling, run and swim and that may be watched by most of us, close to our homes. To be exact Mr. Teale's book contains 29 natural history vignettes, all perfect delineations of the behavior of insects, toads, dogs, wolves, rabbits, rats, spiders, snakes, swimming cats, birds, turtles, etc., as well as of the fauna of ditchwater, of the heat generated by the skunk cabbage, and of the author's bird observations at night on the top of the Empire State Building, to mention only a few. Mr. Teale is always interesting whether he is writing about the curl in a pig's tail or the foam tracks on a beach, and after reading his books one is always painlessly and quietly enriched from his boundless supply of facts.

Sometimes I wonder if there are sordid sides to the author's adventures, involving mosquito bites, scratches from brambles, stepping into water-holes, or other discomforts. If such occur there is no mention of them to mar the smoothness of his narratives. Anyhow his readers are quite willing for him to suffer if it results in such skillful and eloquent writing supplemented by his own extraordinary photographs which are just as full of interest as his texts.

If you are not a naturalist *Days Without Time* will open up new worlds for you. If you are a naturalist you will get infinite pleasure from reading about animals outside your own specialty.—H. B. WEISS.